

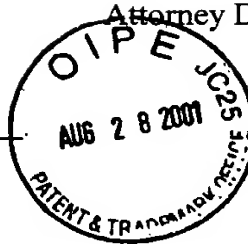
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

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Washington, DC 20231 on 24 Aug 01

  
James F. Harrington

Attorney Docket No.: **ARTM 1008-5 US****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>In re Application</b> <b>Inventors:</b> William R. Dubrul and Richard E. Fulton <b>SC/Serial No.:</b> 09/781,721 <b>Confirm. No.:</b> 8945 <b>Filed:</b> 12 February 2001 <b>Title:</b> DILATING AND SUPPORT APPARATUS WITH DISEASE INHIBITORS AND METHODS FOR USE	<b>PATENT APPLICATION</b>     <b>Customer No. 22470</b>
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56. If this is a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application, it is understood that the Examiner will consider all information which was considered by the Office in a parent application. MPEP §609. Such information therefore is not listed herein unless it is desired that the information be printed on a patent issuing from the subject application.

***Enclosed with this statement are the following:***

- ☒ Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.
- ☒ A copy of each cited document as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

PTA Statement under 37 C.F.R. §704(d). Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

***This statement should be considered because:***

- ☒ **37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).** This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because:

- (1) It is being filed within three months of the filing date of an application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);  
-- OR --
- (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage;  
-- OR --
- (3) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,  
-- OR --
- (4) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

— 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). Although it may not qualify under subsection (b), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (c) because:

- (1) It is being filed before the mailing date of a FINAL office action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the subject application, whichever occurs first.

— AND (check at least one of the following) --

- (1) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).

— OR --

- (2) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

— 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). Although it may not qualify under subsection (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (d) because:

- (1) It is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee;

— AND --

- (2) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e);

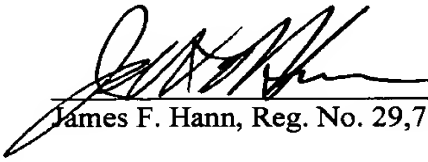
— AND --

- (3) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

✓ **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge underpayment of any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0869 (CVNT 1017-1). A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 24 Aug 01

  
James F. Hann, Reg. No. 29,719

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